(ग) गन्ना उत्पादकों को, भविष्य में और अधिक गन्ना पैदा करने हेतु प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए क्या प्रयास किए गए हैं?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुल्लापल्ली रामाचन्द्रन): (क) और (ख) दरअसल गन्ने के लिए कोई अधिप्राप्ति मूल्य नहीं है। तथापि, केन्द्रीय सरकार प्रत्येक मौसम में गन्ने का सांविधिक न्यूनतम मूल्य निर्धारित करती है, और कोई भी चीनी कारखाना उत्पादकों को इससे कम कीमत अदा नहीं कर सकता है। 1992-93 के लिए चीनी कारखानों द्वारा दिए जाने वाले गन्ने के सांविधिक न्यूनतम मूल्य निर्धारित करने का प्रस्ताव अभी सरकार के विचाराधीन है। हालांकि अब तक कोई अंतिम निर्णय नहीं लिया जा सका है।

(ग) गन्ने के उत्पादन को बढ़ाने की नीति में निम्नलिखित सम्मिलित हैः क्वालिटी बीजों का उत्पादन व वितरणः बेहतर जल प्रबंध, उर्वरकों का युक्तियुक्त उपयोग; रतुओं का बेहतर प्रबंध; पौध संरक्षण के अंतर्गत अधिक क्षेत्रों को शामिल करना; विभिन्न विस्तार प्रणालियों के माध्यम से प्रौद्योगिकी अन्तरण; गन्ना विकास, कर्मचारियों का प्रशिक्षण तथा गन्ना विकास में चीनी कारखानों की अधिक सहभागिता।

Use of Equipments in I.C.A.R. Institutions, Laboratories

3815. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in many institutions/Laboratories under I.C.A.R. (Indian Council of Agricultural Research) equipments and stores costing Rs. 2.04 crore including imported ones are lying uninstalled or unused, relating to the period as far back as 1961;

(b) if so, what arc the details thereof indicating value, year of purchase and reasons for lying uninstalled; and

(c) the number of cases in which I.C.A.R.'s reply for inordinate delay in installation of equipment etc. in response to audit objections has .not given so far indicating the reasons therefor'.'

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Sir, As per Report No. 2 of 1992 of C. & AG of India (Scientific Departments) for the year ended 31.3.1991, equipments and stores (including imported ones) costing Rs. 3.60 crores were shown as uninstalled, lying unused. The oldest equipment as per details in the report was procured in 1965 and not in 1961.

(b) The details are given in Annexure. *[See* Apendix CLXV, Annexure No. 66]

(c) The ICAR has since furnished replies to the Principal Director of Audit, Scientfic Departments in respect of all the items.

Assistance to Small Farmers

3816. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the criteria for determining small farmers together with the State-wise number of such farmers in the country;

(b) what assistance is being provided to small farmers by Government for agricultural development; and

(c) whether Government propose to exempt small farmers from payment of interest on bank loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) A cultivator with a land holding of two hectares or below is a small farmer. Where a farmer has Class I irrigated land, as defined in the State Land Ceiling Legislation with one hectare or less he will also be considered as small farmers. Where the land is irrigated but not of the Class I variety, -a suitable-conversion ratio is being adoptcd by the State Governments

with a ceiling of two hectares. Statewise number of small farmers is given in the enclosed statement, *(set below.)*

(b) Assistance is being provided to small farmers by Government for the agricultural development through various schemes, such as, Special Foodgrain Production Programme-Wheat (SFPP-Wheat), Special Foodgrain Production Programme-Maize and Millets (SFPP-Maize & Millets), Integrated Programme for Rice Development (IPRD), Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP), Special Jute Development Programme (SJDP), Promotion of Agricultural Mechanisation through small tractors, etc. After the decontrol of phosphatic and potassic fertilizers, to protect the small and marginal farmers who do not have enough marketable surplus to derive benefits from enhanced support price, Government have taken up a scheme for their assistance at a total cost of Rs. *500* crore.

(c) At prasent there is no proposal under consideration to exempt small farmers from payment of interest on the bank loans.

Statement

Number of Small Farmers/holdings in India as per 1985-86 *Agriculture Census.*

Sl. No.	States	No. of small farmers/ Holdings (in '000)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1714
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	16
3.	Assam	546
4.	Bihar	1327
5.	Goa	10
6.	Gujarat	737
7.	Haryana	265
8.	Himachal Pradesh	155
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	187
10.	Karnataka	1293
11.	Kerala	282
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1613
13.	Maharashtra	2104
14.	Manipur	48
15.	Mizoram	19
16.	Meghalaya	51
17.	Nagaland	19
18.	Orissa	910
19.	Punjab	208
20.	Rajasthan	920
21.	Sikkim	10
22.	Tamil Nadu	1260
23.	Tripura	70
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2964
25.	West Bengal	1175
	All Union Territories	16
	All India	17919

Export of Sesame Seed

3817. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's sesame seed exports have fallen down drastically due to the detection of residues of banned pesticides in the sesame seeds by importing countries; and

(b) what remedial steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Sesame seed is not subject to mandatory Pre-shipment inspection under the provisions of Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act 1963. Though there are no other specific reports/complaints regarding detection of residues of banned pesticides, it is believed that the decline in exports could be due to the presence of pesticides residues.

Based on the recommendations of the Export Committee regarding pesticides banned in other countries, the use of 15 pesticides has been banned/phased out. In addition, restrictions have been placed